

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241050

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 15221 ACTION SECSTATE, INFO BONN, GENEVA
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QTE: C O N F I D E N T A L LONDON 15221
PASS TO ACDA FOR STEARMAN AND BLACK

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: EC, UK, PARM
SUBJECT: DISARMAMENT ISSUES AT THE UN: UK AND EC-9 VIEWS

SUMMARY. IN CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT ACDA DIRECTOR
SLOSS SEPTEMBER 22, JOHN EDMUNDS OF FCO SUMMARIZED
DISCUSSION OF DISARMAMENT ISSUES AT MEETING OF EC-9
DISARMAMENT EXPERTS IN THE HAGUE SEPTEMBER 16 AND ADDED
COMMENTARY ON UK VIEWS ON SEVERAL ISSUES. TOPICS
COVERED IN EC-9 MEETING WERE (A) ROLE OF UN IN
DISARMAMENT, (B) UN SPECIAL SESSION. (C) CHEMICAL WAR-
FARE. (D) MILITARY BUDGET REDUCTIONS, (E) ENVIRONMENTAL
MODIFICATION, (F) MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS, (G) CTB AND
NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, (H) SEA BED REVIEW CONFERENCE,
AND (I) NON-USE OF FORCE. SLOSS ALSO RAISED INDIAN
OCEAN PEACE ZONE, CONVENTIONAL ARMS RESTRAINT AND IAEA
STUDY OF PNE. END SUMMARY.

1. ROLE OF UN IN DISARMAMENT - GENERAL AGREEMENT BY
EC-9, WITH EXCEPTION OF FRENCH, THAT ROUND REPORT
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SATISFACTORY AND GENERALLY INNOCUOUS, AND THAT UN

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REPORT SHOULD BE ENDORSED. UK NOTED IT WOULD RESERVE ON FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. SLOSS SAID U.S. VIEW SIMILAR.

2. UN SPECIAL SESSION - VIEWS OF EC-9 STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO THOSE RECENTLY DISCUSSED IN ACDA. THEY OPPOSE WDC, SEE UNSS AS INEVITABLE, HOPE TO SHAPE IT CONSTRUCTIVELY, WILL PUSH FOR PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WITH OPEN-ENDED MEMBERSHIP. UK SUGGESTS THAT WDC PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MIGHT RECESS DURING PREPARATIONS FOR UNSS AND BELIEVE UNSS NEED NOT INCLUDE ALL UN MEMBERS.

3. CW WAS DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS BY EC-9 WITH FOCUS ON FORTHCOMING UN DEBATE. APPARENTLY THERE WERE SOME COMMENTS MADE ABOUT LIMITED U.S. CONSULTATIONS WITH WESTERN ALLIES PRIOR TO BILATERAL MEETING WITH SOVIETS. UK INDICATED THEY ARE STILL AWAITING COMMENTS ON THEIR DRAFT TREATY FROM EUROPEAN ALLIES.

4. REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS - EDMUNDS INDICATED UK NOT CLEAR WHAT ARE NEXT STEPS, AND ASKED OUR VIEW ON PILOT STUDY PROPOSED BY BECKER. SLOSS SAID U.S. ALSO UNCERTAIN ON NEXT STEPS. EDMUNDS URGED WE CONSIDER WHAT COUNTRIES MIGHT BE SUBJECT OF PILOT STUDY.

5. ENMOD - BRITISH REPORTED UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT IN NINE TO SUPPORT CURRENT ENMOD TEXT. SEVERAL ALLIES PREPARED TO ASSIST IN GENERATING SUPPORT IN NEW YORK. SLOSS EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION, INDICATED WE WERE APPROACHING SOVIETS TO PROPOSE TEXT OF RESOLUTION AND SUGGESTED FURTHER DISCUSSION IN BRUSSELS MEETING OF DISARMAMENT EXPERTS.

6. MDW - NINE COOL TO SOVIET INITIATIVE, BUT WILL WAIT TO SEE WHAT THEIR UN RESOLUTION LOOKS LIKE. SLOSS INDICATED SIMILAR U.S. VIEW.

7. CTB-PNE-NON-PROLIFERATION - THESE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED BY NINE AS A PACKAGE. EDMUNDS NOTED THIS DIFFICULT SUBJECT FOR NINE DUE TO DIFFERING VIEWS. GENERAL CONFIDENTIAL

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AGREEMENT THAT LAST YEAR'S SOVIET RESOLUTION ON CTB BAD. SOME THOUGHT GIVEN BY NINE TO COMBINING THESE TOPICS IN SINGLE RESOLUTION. DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS APPARENTLY MOST INCONCLUSIVE.

8. SEA BED REVIEW CONFERENCE - UK REMINDED US OF 1977 REVIEW AND THAT A STATEMENT BY DEPOSITORIES WOULD BE NEEDED BEFORE LONG. WILL DISCUSS MATTER WITH US

FURTHER IN WASHINGTON. SWEDES TOLD UK THEY DO NOT WANT TO CHAIR THIS CONFERENCE. UK SUGGESTS PASTINEN OF FINLAND MIGHT BE GOOD CHAIRMAN AND REQUESTS U.S. VIEWS.

9. NUF - BELGIANS AND DUTCH REPORTED DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS IN VERY VAGUE TERMS. NO ONE IS SURE PRECISELY WHAT SOVIETS WILL PROPOSE, BUT NINE ARE FIRM ON PROTECTING UN CHARTER. SLOSS SAID U.S. CONCURRED AND ALSO UNCERTAIN EXACTLY WHAT SOVIETS WOULD PROBOSE.

10. IOPZ - SLOSS NOTED MOVEMENT GROWING FOR A CONFERENCE OF LITTORAL AND OTHER STATES AND SAID WE WOULD HAVE TO DECIDE WHETHER TO PARTICIPATE, MAKING CLEAR ISSUE WAS OPEN IN USG.

11. IAEA STUDY OF PNE'S - SLOSS NOTED USG WOULD FORWARD VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT TO UK SHORTLY AND ALSO ADVISED FRG DISARMAMENT CHIEF ROTH ON SEPTEMBER 23.

12. U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY-EDMONDS INDICATED UK INTEREST IN FRYE STUDY AND FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT. SLOSS SUGGESTED UK EMBASSY FOLLOW-UP WITH ACDA AND OTHERS IN WASHINGTON.

13. CONVENTIONAL ARMS - SLOSS OUTLINED OUR PLANS FOR NATO DISCUSSION THIS TOPIC AND GAVE EDMUND ADVANCED COPY U.S. PAPER. COPY ALSO GIVEN TO ROTH ON THURSDAY.

14. ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DISARMAMENT - SWEDES TOLD UK THEY WANTED BJORNSTED FOR NEW UN POSITION AND SAID THEY HAD U.S. APPROVAL. IF THIS NOT CORRECT UK SHOULD BE ADVISED.

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ARMSTRONG UNQTE: ROBINSON

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